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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claim 1 (canceled).

Claim 2 (currently amended): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 45, wherein the piezoelectric substrate is made of one of LiTaO₃ and LiNbO₃.

Claim 3 (currently amended): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 45, further comprising reflectors arranged in the surface wave propagating direction on the right and left of the region where the first, second and third IDTs are arranged.

Claim 4 (currently amended): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 45, wherein widths of the electrode fingers on each side of the second IDT are larger than those of the remaining electrode fingers.

Claim 5 (currently amended): ~~A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 1.~~ A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter having a balance-unbalance conversion function, the filter comprising:

a piezoelectric substrate; and

first, second and third IDTs arranged on the piezoelectric substrate in a surface acoustic wave propagating direction, the second IDT being located between the first

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and third IDTs and having an even number of electrode fingers; wherein

said second IDT includes two opposed bus bars and said electrode fingers of said second IDT extend from each of said two opposed bus bars toward each other and are interdigitated with each other, said electrode fingers of said second IDT are interdigitated such that no two of the electrode fingers extending from one of said two opposed bus bars are immediately adjacent to each other; wherein and

electrode fingers of said first and third IDTs adjacent to the second IDT have opposite polarities.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 45, further comprising a surface acoustic wave resonator connected between the first and third IDTs and a terminal.

Claim 7 (currently amended): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 45, wherein each of the first, second and third IDTs include narrow pitch electrode finger sections that are relatively narrower than others of the electrode finger sections included in the first, second and third IDTs.

Claim 8 (currently amended): A communication apparatus comprising the longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to Claim 45.

Claim 9 (previously presented): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter having a balance-unbalance conversion function, the filter comprising:

first-stage and second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filters longitudinally coupled to each other, each of the first-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave and the second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter including a

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piezoelectric substrate and first, second and third IDTs arranged on the piezoelectric substrate in a surface acoustic wave propagating direction, said second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter including two opposed bus bars and electrode fingers extending in a longitudinally direction of the electrode fingers from each of said two opposed bus bars and being interdigitated with each other;

an unbalanced signal terminal connected to one end of the second IDT of the first-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter;

a first balanced signal terminal connected to one of said two opposed bus bars of the second IDT of the second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter;

a second balanced signal terminal connected to the other of said two opposed bus bars of the second IDT of the second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter;

a first signal line connecting one end of the first IDT of the first-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter and one end of the first IDT of the second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter; and

a second signal line connecting one end of the third IDT of the first-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter and one end of the third IDT of the second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter;

wherein an electric signal propagating through the first signal line is 180° out of phase with an electric signal propagating through the second signal line.

Claim 10 (original): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to Claim 9, wherein the second IDT of at least one of the first-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter and the second-

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stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter has an even number of electrode fingers.

Claim 11 (original): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 9, wherein the piezoelectric substrate of each of the first-stage and second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filters is made of one of LiTaO₃ and LiNbO₃.

Claim 12 (original): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 9, wherein each of first-stage and second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filters further comprises reflectors arranged in the surface wave propagating direction on the right and left of the region where the first, second and third IDTs are arranged.

Claim 13 (original): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 9, wherein in each of the first-stage and second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filters, widths of the electrode fingers on each side of the second IDT are larger than those of the remaining electrode fingers.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 9, wherein in each of the first-stage and second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filters, electrode fingers of said first and third IDTs adjacent to the second IDT have opposite polarities.

Claim 15 (original): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 9, wherein each of the first-stage and second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filters further comprises a

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surface acoustic wave resonator connected between the first and third IDTs and a terminal.

Claim 16 (original): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 9, wherein in each of the first-stage and second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filters, each of the first, second and third IDTs include narrow pitch electrode finger sections that are relatively narrower than others of the electrode finger sections included in the first, second and third IDTs.

Claim 17 (original): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 9, wherein the first-stage and second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filters have the same structure.

Claim 18 (original): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 9, wherein in each of the first-stage and second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filters, the finger electrodes of the first and third IDTs that are adjacent to the central second IDT are arranged to define ground electrodes.

Claim 19 (previously presented): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to claim 9, wherein in each of the first-stage and second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filters, the polarities of the electrode fingers of the second IDT adjacent to the first and third IDTs are the same as the polarities of electrode fingers of the first and third IDTs adjacent to the second IDT.

Claim 20 (original): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic

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wave filter according to claim 9, wherein the first-stage and second-stage longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filters are symmetrical to each other.

Claim 21 (canceled).

Claim 22 (original): A communication apparatus comprising the longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to Claim 9.

Claim 23 (new): A longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter having a balance-unbalance conversion function, the filter comprising:

a piezoelectric substrate;

first, second and third IDTs arranged on the piezoelectric substrate in a surface acoustic wave propagating direction, the second IDT being located between the first and third IDTs and having an even number of electrode fingers; and

a surface acoustic wave resonator connected between the first and third IDTs and a terminal; wherein

said second IDT includes two opposed bus bars and said electrode fingers of said second IDT extend from each of said two opposed bus bars toward each other and are interdigitated with each other, said electrode fingers of said second IDT are interdigitated such that no two of the electrode fingers extending from one of said two opposed bus bars are immediately adjacent to each other.

Claim 24 (new): A communication apparatus comprising the longitudinally coupled resonator type surface acoustic wave filter according to Claim 23.